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To:	FROM:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents Attn: Examiner Nguyen	Peter D. McDermott
COMPANY:	DATE:
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	February 22, 2001
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Your Reference No.:	OUR REFERENCE (C/M) No.:
	3259.80972

RE:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/447,030, Filed 22 November 1999

Applicant: Forbert et al.

Title: Method for Producing Substantially Globular Lyogels and Aerogels

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call:

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Andrea MacVarish

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#### COMMENTS:

# Dear Examiner Nguyen:

Thank you for your telephone interview on February 20, 2001 regarding the above-captined patent application. In response to that telephone interview, applicant files herewith in the above-captioned patent application the following:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Peter D. McDermott

Reg. No. 29,411

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## AE97/151US

PATENT /2-0/

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (3259.84946)

Applicant:

Forbert et al.

Paper No:

Application No.:

09/447,030

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

22 November 1999

Examiner: Nguyen

Title:

Method for Producing Substantially Globular Lyogels and Aerogels

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

#### In the Specification

On page 9, line 1 delete "The following statement presents various aspects and features of the present invention:" and insert in place thereof -- Patent claims -- .